

March 17, 2008

ALASKA PYLI Media Release

Students Learn Leadership To Give Back to the Community !

(Anchorage)

21 Anchorage middle and high school students spent their Spring Break improving themselves to improve the community by attending the Alaska Points of Light Youth Leadership Institute March 10-14 at UAA. The PYLI Institute provided the youth with the encouragement, peer networks and leadership skills necessary for them to make meaningful contributions to their communities and begin a life-long journey of leadership and service.

Institute's interactive, state-of-the-art curriculum gave participants the caliber of leadership training typically available only to corporate executives and government leaders. Students completed a challenging series of lessons and exercises on community needs analysis, goal setting, team building, project planning, decision-making, and other leadership dynamics. During the last day of the Institute, students performed hands on service at the Alaska Native Medical Center reading to children, Anchorage Rescue Mission cleaning the facility, and Providence Horizon House, singing and socializing with senior citizens. Students are required to perform an additional ten hours of volunteer service and participate in the National Youth Service Day project in order to graduate on April 26 at the Prudential Spirit of Community Student Volunteer Recognition Ceremony.

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Master PYLI Trainer - Points of Light & Hands On Network Friends of Alaska PYLI - www.pyli.org 561-6630 alaskayouthasresources@alaska.net

Prudential (and Prudential Jack White Vista Real Estate in Alaska) has long been a vigorous supporter of volunteering and community involvement, and believes that communities can be strong and vibrant only if their citizens work together to address issues of common concern. In order to help ensure the future vitality of American communities, Prudential launched a major corporate initiative in 1995- The Prudential Spirit of Community Initiative- that encourages young people to become actively involved in making their communities better places to live. The Points of Light Youth Leadership Institute is part of this initiative in partnership with Points of Light & Hands On Network.

Please visit the Prudential web site

(www.prudentialjackwhitevista.com/points_of_light_institute/) to learn more about the Initiative and Prudential.

Alaska Points of Light Youth Leadership Institute Student Participants
March 10-14, 2008 UAA Student Union Anchorage, Alaska

Lauren Astor	-	West Anchorage High School
Zach Barkley	-	Begich Middle School
Seth Bolds	-	Begich Middle School
Joy Chappell	-	East Anchorage High School
Jennifer Christiansen	-	West Anchorage High School
Kimberly Delk	-	Bartlett High School
Devante Hastings	-	Bartlett High School

Coby Hoffman - Bartlett High School
Megan Johnson - East High School
Natalie Kardell - Romig Middle School
Timothy Lee - Romig Middle School
Demetria Lyons - East Anchorage High School
Gavin Lyons - East Anchorage High School
Adam Leibert - Romig Middle School
Lindsay Martin - Romig Middle School
Pandora Mewborn - Begich Middle School Jordan Pruszenski - Hanshew
Middle School Amanda May Sather - West Anchorage High School Ryan
Sherwin-Alakayak - Begich Middle School Marlise Williams - Bartlett
High School
Curliah Young - Begich Middle School

CC

Sven Gustafson - Romig Middle School
Bobby Jones - Romig Middle School
Nancy Beardsley - MOA Parks & Rec
Mary Kearns - Alaska Division of Juvenile Justice Shelley Atkinson -
Begich Middle School Jeanne Fischer - Begich Middle School Debbie
Whitehouse - Begich Middle School
Sean Murphy - Begich Middle School
Karol Benroth - Hanshew Middle School
Donna - Chugachmiut Inc.
Jim McKenzie - Alaska Humanities Forum - Leadership Anchorage Liz Posey
- Young Adult Community Leader - PYLI Graduate

Carol Kane - Alaska Association of Secondary School Principals
Helen Trainor - UAA Trio
Tamika Wesley - UAA Trio
Christal Smaw - UAA Trio
Shelia Randazzo - CITCI Family Advocate Tina Michels-Hansen - CITCI
Educational Services Kelly Hurd - Red Cross of Alaska Tim Anderson -
Chugach Regional Resources Commission Roberta Webb - Alaska Native
Medical Center David Williams - Anchorage Rescue Mission Pearl Temple
- Providence Horizon House Paul Kelson - Friends of Alaska PYLI